



Thursdays at Noon
presents

BEETHOVEN VIOLIN SONATAS I

Scott St. John, violin
Lydia Wong, piano

Thursday, September 19, 2002
12:10 pm. Walter Hall

Ludwig van Beethoven
1770-1827

Sonata in D major, Op. 12 No. 1
Allegro con brio
Tema con Variazioni. Andante con moto
Rondo. Allegro

Sonata in A major, Op. 12 No. 2
Allegro vivace
Andante piu tosto allegretto
Allegro piacevole

The second instalment of the Beethoven Violin Sonatas survey, featuring Sonata in E-flat major, Op. 12 No. 3 and Sonata in A minor, Op. 23, is scheduled on Thursday, March 13, 2003, at 12:10 pm in Walter Hall.

This recital is performed on the Edith McConica Steinway piano

Artist Biographies

Canadian-born **Scott St. John** captures the attention of the musical world through his riveting and virtuosic performances on violin and viola.

Deeply committed to education and outreach, St. John employs his exceptional communication skills to connect with and inspire students and adults alike. Further evidence of his teaching gifts lies in his appointment to a prestigious faculty position at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music. St. John performs frequently on the university's Faculty Artist Series and Thursday Noon Series, maintains a thriving studio of fifteen violinists and violists, and coordinates the chamber music program.

An avid chamber musician, St. John spends the summers at the Marlboro Music Festival in Vermont. He frequently performs with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, on nationwide Musicians from Marlboro tours, and at the Seattle, Spoleto, and Vancouver music festivals. From 1994-1997 St. John was Founder and Artistic Director of Millennium, a contemporary music ensemble for top young chamber musicians.

Two of St. John's recording projects have recently been released on CD. From CBC Records, a disc entitled "A Parisian Salon": sonatas by Poulenc, Martinu, Turina and Satie in collaboration with pianist Rena Sharon. From Naxos comes a Messiaen disc with the riveting "Quartet for the End of Time" plus the "Theme and Variations," in collaboration with the Toronto-based chamber group Amici.

One of Canada's most sought after collaborative pianists, acclaimed for her 'vivacious playing' (Daily Telegraph) and 'sparkling clarity' (The Strad) **Lydia Wong** appears regularly with the world's pre-eminent performers. Venues across the globe from Carnegie Recital Hall in New York City to London's Wigmore Hall have featured her expertise in partnership with such artists as Lorand Fenyves, Frans Helmerson, Yuri Bashmet, Rivka Golani, Scott St. John, Shauna Rolston and Patrick Gallois. Following her successful Banff Centre collaboration with Krzysztof Penderecki on the North American premiere of his Sextet, Ms. Wong was invited by the composer to perform at the 2001 Festival Casals in Puerto Rico and by the Carnegie Hall Corporation to perform at the "Making Music" series in New York in May 2002.

A regular collaborator with the Esprit Orchestra since 1998 Ms. Wong most recently performed as soloist in ...quasi una fantasia...by Gyorgy Kurtag and recorded Alexina Louie's Piano Quintet with the Accordes String Quartet for release on CentreDiscs. She can also be heard on Marquis Classics and Phoenix Records and has performed for networks in North America, Africa and Europe besides broadcasting regularly for the CBC. A faculty member of the summer music program at the Banff Centre in Alberta, Canada since 1992, she joined the faculty of the University of Toronto in 1998.